

American Studies

Black English and the Mass Media WALTER M. BRASCH

Based upon a thorough understanding of the evolution of Black English and the development of American culture, this book proposes five major cycles of Black English and "should receive a hearty welcome from journalists, linguists, historians, sociologists, educators, and students of American folklore and literature. It will be praised, read with interest, quoted, and sometimes bitterly attacked, but it will stand as a unique source of information and controversy"—Carroll E. Reed, University of Massachusetts.

\$25

Mother of the Blues: A Study of Ma Rainey SANDRA R. LIEB

"Ma" Rainey (Gertrude Pridgett, 1886–1939) was America's first major woman blues singer. Recording star, songwriter, actress, dancer and comedienne, she was one of the greatest blues artists of the 1920s, reaching a wide and racially mixed audience through her immensely successful recordings and stage performances. This first substantive biographical study of Rainey analyzes her lyrics and stresses her role as a pioneer of the Classic Blues.

November \$17.50

Jonathan Edwards PERRY MILLER Introduction by Donald Weber

When Perry Miller's intellectual biography of Jonathan Edwards appeared in 1949, it was heralded as a major contribution to American cultural history. Continuing his earlier rehabilitation of the Puritan mind, Miller singlehandedly restored the figure of Edwards from the image of a reactionary, "fiery" Puritan to that of an artist whose vision summarized, in Miller's favorite phrase, "the meaning of America." (New England Writers Series)

paper \$10

Mark Twain and "Life on the Mississippi"

HORST H. KRUSE Foreword by Everett Emerson

(Translated from the German)

A former Mississippi River pilot, Mark Twain had for years wanted to write a standard work on the river and its society that, like *Roughing It*, would combine first-hand observation and experience with historical fact. Defending *Life on the Mississippi* against its detractors, Kruse argues that the book is such a standard work and his helpful tracing of the book's origin and initial design adds to our appreciation of its significance in the canon of Twain's work.

\$17.50

The University of Massachusetts Press Box 429 Amherst 01004